PAWTUCKET CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

**MEETING** 

**December 16, 2009** 

A meeting of the Pawtucket Charter Review Commission is held Wednesday, December 16, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 303, City Hall, 137 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI.

Present – Chairperson Tavares, Commissioners Babiec, Butler, Hovarth, McGill, Sawyer, Spinola and Tirrell.

**Absent – Commissioners Brissette, McKittrick and Plitt.** 

**Chairperson Tavares presides.** 

The Commission conducts a public input period, at which Stephen Kapalka of 10 Vineyard Street, Pawtucket presents provisions from the Cranston and East Providence City Charters and speaks about term limits, requiring members of boards and commissions to be qualified electors in the City and the removal process.

The reading of the minutes of the Charter Review Commission

Meeting of December 9, 2009 is dispensed with and the minutes are APPROVED as prepared by the Secretary.

The Commission Takes up the following:

Chairperson Tavares proposes a revised meeting schedule and an additional meeting to be held on January 5, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. in Room 303, City Hall 137 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI.

After discussion on thereon, the revised schedule and additional meeting were approved by the Commission without opposition.

The Commission Takes up the following:

Review of the Preamble to the Charter – No discussion.

Review of Article I – Discussion regarding the proper form of citation of various provisions.

No further discussion.

Review of Article III, Chapter 1 – Discussion whether the listing departments and department heads as enumerated in the Charter is an accurate representation of the departments and department heads as they presently exist.

Review of Article III, Chapter 2 – Discussion whether members of boards and commissions should be qualified electors, rather than only residents of the City.

Review of Article III, Chapter 3 – Discussion whether the list of positions for which qualifications are specified should be modified after determination of present existing departments.

Review of Article III, Chapter 4 – No discussion.

Review of Article III, Chapter 5 – Discussion regarding procedure for filling a mid-term vacancy in the Mayor's office and the duties of a City Council President who assumes the vacant office of Mayor.

Review of Article III, Chapter 6 – Discussion regarding compensation for members of boards and commissions.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 1 – Discussion regarding budget presentation format and whether the Mayor's power to call special meetings as authorized by the Charter conforms to Open Meetings Law requirements.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 2 – No discussion.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 3 – No discussion.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 4 – No discussion.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 5 – Discussion whether the division of collections and disbursements is responsible for the collection of water and sewer charges.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 6 - Discussion whether the divisions within the Department of Public Works should be modified after determination of present existing departments and their divisions.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 7 - Discussion whether the divisions within the Department of Public Safety should be modified after determination of present existing departments and their divisions. Discussion regarding the duties of "special policemen" and "special firemen".

Review of Article IV, Chapter 8 - Discussion whether the Department of Human Services should be eliminated or modified after determination of present existing departments.

Review of Article IV, Chapter 9 – Discussion whether the Division of Zoning and Code Enforcement and the Division of Licenses and Inspections are separate entities or whether these divisions should be modified after determination of present existing departments and their divisions.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:35 p.m.
Margaret-Mary Belliveau Hovarth, Secretary